

layer, at least one nicotine-containing layer or zone, and at least one essential oil extracted from a mint species or at least one monoterpene ketone contained in said essential oils.

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Cont*

2. (Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to claim 1, wherein the monoterpene ketone is selected from the group consisting of carvone, dihydrocarvone, menthone, isopulegone, isomenthone, neomenthone, neoisomenthone and piperitone.

Subt C2

3. (Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to claim 2, wherein the monoterpene ketone is a pure enantiomer or a mixture of enantiomers.

4. (Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to claim 1, wherein the essential oil is spearmint oil.

5. (Twice Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the content of the at least one monoterpene ketone in the nicotine-containing layer or zone is 0.1 to 5.0%-wt.

Subt C3

6. (Amended) Process for masking an unpleasant smell, caused by the presence of nicotine, of a nicotine-containing transdermal therapeutic system, comprising adding at least one odor-improving substance to the nicotine-containing transdermal therapeutic system, said substance being an essential oil extracted from a mint species or a monoterpene ketone contained in an essential oil extracted from a mint species.

7. (Amended) Process according to claim 6, wherein the essential oil

~~is peppermint oil.~~

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contd

8. (Amended) Process according to claim 6, wherein the monoterpenone is selected from the group consisting of carvone, dihydrocarvone, menthone, isopulegone, isomenthone, neomenthone, neoisomenthone and piperitone.

Cancel Claims 9-13:

Add the following claims:

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-- 14. Transdermal therapeutic system according to claim 1, wherein the nicotine - containing layer or zone has pressure- sensitive adhesive properties and is covered by a removable protective layer.

~~Sub C4~~
15. Transdermal therapeutic system according to claim 5, wherein the content of the at least one monoterpenone ketone in the nicotine-containing layer or zone is 0.5- 2%-wt.

16. Process according to claim 9, wherein the at least one monoterpenone ketone is added to the nicotine - containing layer or zone in a quantity constituting 0.5-2% wt of said layer or zone.--